

Minutes for Howard County Commission for Veterans and Military Families

Thursday, 1 November 2018

9830 Patuxent Woods Drive, Room 337

Columbia, Maryland 21046

Attendance: Jonathan K. Branch, Janice Agazio, Robert Lowell, Bob Moore, Alison Buckley, Michael Blum, J. Gregory Jolissaint, Howard T. Mooney, Wanda Riddle, Lisa Terry **Guests:** Yale Stenzler, Chris Baughman, Nathan Jones, Staci Harrison

Howard called the meeting to order at 7:02pm. The minutes of the previous month were reviewed and approved. Jonathan moved to accept. Robert seconded the motion.

Next meeting dates are December 6, which will be our holiday party at Bare Bones. Howard emphasized that there are no restrictions as to who can attend the holiday party. Other meetings will be held on 6 January 2019 and 7 February 2019. Lisa offered an update regarding the Veterans Resource Fair at Howard Community College. Alison also offered an update regarding the location. Lisa also offered an update regarding the veteran's small business owners' certificate. Bob Moore updated the commission regarding the Veterans Day Educators Resource Guide. He said that he heard from a school in Carroll County. A program will be held at Clarksville Middle School. Lisa and Wanda updated the commission on the Veterans Monument progress. They went to the pre-briefing for the community. The architectural plan is progressing very well. Wanda stated that the plan is referred to as the "Neighborhood Square" Plan. The plan going forward is aggressive. Wanda gave a detailed report regarding the mental health initiative. Mental health encompasses a lot of things regarding our veteran population. The commission ruled unanimously in favor of being an active part of the mental health commission. Howard stated that he needed items from commission members regarding the annual report. Wanda offered an update regarding the holiday function at Bare Bones. Bob Lowell's early actions avoided an increase in charges for the venue. Howard reviewed the Veterans Day calendar. There is a breakfast and a ceremony at the Howard Community College. The Marine Corps

Ball is Saturday, 10 November. There is also a musical presentation at Slayton House on Veterans Day. There is a code that Lisa can provide. Bob Lowell also mentioned that the American Legion Poppy Event will be held on November 10 and November 12. Howard also reviewed the Commission's Recognition Awards Program.

Lisa announced that Wanda and Chris will be stepping down from the commission. The process of acquiring new members for the commission was reviewed. Nathan Jones spoke as the MDVA Service officer. He stated that his email is nathan.jones@maryland.gov

Staci Harrison was introduced as a guest. Has lived in Howard County since 2005. Stated she and some friends started a Women's Veterans Alliance. Would like to start a chapter in Howard County.

Homework assignment: Be in as much as you can with the Veterans Day activities. Please email any annual reports to Howard or Lisa. Don't forget our Christmas Party. Don't forget to Vote on November 6.

Greg mentioned that this Veterans Day is the 100th Anniversary of Armistice Day
Meeting was adjourned at 7:48pm

Submitted by Jonathan K. Branch